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THE
REASONS

FOR and AGAINST

The Seclusion of Sir G. C.

FROM BEING

LORD MAYOR of London.

Now first Collected from the PAPERS
in which they were occasionally printed.
With a *Short Preface* relating to the
Motions lately made at the *Court of
Hustings*.

To which is added, never before Printed,

The CITY CHAMPION:

A POEM upon *My Lord Mayor's*
GREAT HORSE.

L O N D O N:

Printed for T. COOPER, at the *Globe* in *Patcr-Nasser-Road*.
M.DCC.XXXII. (*Price One Shilling.*)

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Printed for T. Cressel, at the Globe in Peter-Ngher-Street.
MDCCLXXXIX. (1789 Oct 10th)



P R E F A C E.



H E R E having lately been much Talk about the Motions made at the Court of Hustings, by two Gentlemen; the former, on Monday, October 1. for 'A most Dutiful and 'Loyal Address to His Majesty, on 'the present State of the Kingdom;' the latter on Tuesday, October 2. for 'An Humble Petition to Parliament, 'for the Repeal of the *Aldermens Negative* in Common-Council:' And it being asserted by many Persons, that such Motions are *irregular* and *unprecedented*; whoever will look into the *State Trials*, Vol. VII. Fol. 468. and read the Proceedings against *Francis Jenkes*, will there find a Speech made

iv P R E F A C E

by him on * *Midsummer-Day*, 1676,
27 *Car. II.* address'd to the Common-
Serjeant, in the Name of the whole
Citizens, to desire the Lord Mayor to
call a Common-Council, in order to
Petition His Majesty, to call a New
Parliament. This was the *detested* Par-
liament, known by the Name of the
Long Pensionary Parliament, that was then
Sitting; against whose Continuance a
great Number of Lords had enter'd a
very solemn Protestation *November 22.*
1675. After Mr. *Jenkes* had done
speaking, the Common Serjeant pro-
posed to the Hall, that they should
proceed first to the Election of She-
riffs, and then he would carry up both
Messages at once to the Mayor and
Aldermen. After some Time, the
Common-Hall yielded to this Propo-
sal, and accordingly sent up, as usu-

* On this Day, it was asserted in the Hall, that the *Court of Hustings* was one of the ancientest, greatest, and most powerful Courts of this City; and tho' the Customary Business of that Day was the Choice of Officers; yet that Court had Cognizance of any thing that related to the Good of the City.

al,

P R E F A C E.

al, to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, the Names of the Sheriffs elected, with the Motion made to call a *Common-Council*. The Mayor and Aldermen presently came down, and taking their Seats, the Sheriffs were declared by the *Common-Serjeant*, who told the *Common-Hall*, that he had acquainted his Lordship and the Aldermen with their Request, and that he was commanded to tell them, that his Lordship *would be ready to join them in that, or any thing for the Good of the City.*

The Recorder, Sir *John Howel*, who was a *pragmatical, officious* Fellow, and piqu'd against *Jenkes*, as soon as Dinner was over, carry'd a dismal Story up to Court, That one *Francis Jenkes* had begun a *Complaint of Grievances* in the *Common-Hall*. Upon which the *Privy-Council* sent a Summons to *Jenkes* to attend them, where, after many brow-beating Questions, and he, in return insisting upon the Right of the Subject to Petition for Redress, he was
by

by them committed to the *Gate-house* Prison; and tho' nothing *mutinous* or *seditious* (as express'd in the Warrant) appear'd in his whole Behaviour; yet he was detain'd for some considerable time, against all Law, by the Quibbling of the *Chancellor* and *Judges* of those Days, before he was bail'd, tho' afterwards the Court never so much as pretended to commence any Prosecution against him, on that Account.



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LET-



LETTERS, &c.

To the Worthy LIVERYMEN of the City of
LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,



I S Majesty, in his Speech from the Throne, at the Opening of the last Sessions of the last Parliament, was pleas'd to say, "I am very well pleased that this Opportunity offers of taking again the Sense of my People in the Choice of a new Representative, that the World may see how much their true Sentiments have been mistaken or misrepresented?"

In what Words could his Majesty have more plainly signified his Thoughts, that the good Conduct of the Members of that Parliament would be the most likely Means to gain them a Place in the next.

As the Re-election of any Member may be call'd an Approbation of his Conduct du-

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ring

ring the several Sessions of the preceding Parliament, so certainly may the conferring Honour on any Member, during the Continuance of a Parliament, be deem'd a Proof of his having given the true Sense of that Country, City, or Borough, by which that Honour is conferr'd.

Consider with yourselves, Gentlemen, the Advantages which will result to you by resuming your undoubted Right and Privilege of chusing your Lord Mayor; you will thereby give his Majesty the Pleasure of knowing the Sense of this great City, you will put it out of any One's Power to mistake or misrepresent your true Sentiments, and will likewise let your own Members know you will shew a just Resentment to such of them as shall presume to do any thing inconsistent with the Honour and Interest of the Nation. I remain

Your Humble Servant,

A LIVERYMAN.

P S. The Approvers of the *Convention* are desired to give their Votes for Sir George Champion, and Sir John Salter.

The Disapprovers of it for Sir John Salter and Sir Robert Godschall.

And I hope, Gentlemen, you will not give Ear to any thing which may be insinuated of there being any other Party in this Affair.

Unless

Unless you approve of the *Convention*, suffer not the *Gazetteer* to publish through the Nation the News of your having elected, for your Lord Mayor, one who appears in an Anti-Ministerial List to have voted for it.

To the CITIZENS of LONDON.

Gentlemen,

NO sooner was the late *Convention* publish'd, but you apprehended it would very much affect your *Trade* and *Commerce*, and immediately, in your Corporate Capacity, in a most dutiful Manner you petition'd both Houses of Parliament against it: So unanimous were you for petitioning, that not above *four* oppos'd it; but little did you imagine that a *Gentleman* of your own Body, and a *Merchant*, with no visible Reasons to the contrary, should act against you in an Affair of *such Consequence*. How far this Person, to justify his own Conduct, was concern'd in *contriving* a List of the Common-Council-Men of the City of *London*, publish'd in the *Gazetteer* March 2. 1739, tending to depreciate you, in order to take off that Weight which it's hoped you never will lose, I refer to your Consideration; but assure yourselves, if you should chuse such a Man into the *Highest Office* in your City, it will shew

so great a *Supineness* and *Disregard* to your *Liberties*, that the whole Nation (who have always cast their Eyes on you in all great Events) can have no Hope (let your Representations be ever so just) of your succeeding on any future Occasion. Therefore, Gentlemen, as the Event has shewn how far you were then in the Right; *be steady*; and as you were so unanimous in petitioning against the *Convention*, be as unanimous in setting aside *that Person* who voted for it.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Humble Servant,

A CITIZEN.

AFFIDAVIT of Mr. John Champion,
of London, Merchant.

WH E R E A S, near the End of the last Session of Parliament, a scandalous Reflection was rais'd upon a certain Member of the House of Commons, nearly related to me, insinuating, that I had, about that time, received by the Mistake of the Bearer, a Bank Note or Notes, for his Account and Use, in a Corrupt way; which Reflection I then thought so ridiculous, that it did not deserve any Notice to be taken of it: But since that Report has been most industriously spread, and by my Silence may have gain'd Credit, in mere Justice to that Gentleman's Character, I
have

have thought fit to make the following Declaration, in the most solemn manner.

John Champion, of London, Merchant, maketh Oath, That neither he this Depo-
nent, nor any other Person to this Depo-
nent's Knowledge, did at, or about the
Time mention'd, or at any other Time what-
soever, receive by Mistake or otherwise, any
Letter, Message, Bank Bill or Bills, Note
or Notes, or other Paper Writing whatsoever
as has been reported, and that the said
Report and every Part thereof is entirely
false and groundless. JOHN CHAMPION.

*Sworn at Haberdashers Hall in London, the
22d Day of August, 1739, before me,*

MICAJAH PERRY, Mayor.

From a Pot-Boyley at Aylesbury.

To the AUTHOR of the Daily Post.

S I R,

Sept. 24. 1739.

Seeing in yours and other Papers lately,
an Affidavit, made and sign'd by a Per-
son, and, as he says, a near Relation to a
Worshipful, tho' not yet Right Honourable,
Gentleman, disavowing his Receipt of any
Bank or other Bills for any Sum or Sums of
Money, or any Money by Mistake, or other-
wise, suppos'd to have been, or intended for
the

the Benefit of his said Relation ; I made no doubt but to have seen another from the *Worshipful Gentleman himself*, to clear up the Asperſion therein mention'd, but as yet there is none come to this Corporation : I deſire the Gentleman to answer me, who am an Elector for this Corporation,

1st, Whether he had any *Orders* from his Electors to *vote* for the *Convention* ?

2dly, Whether he ever consulted us, his Electors, in *that*, or *any other Vote* to be given for us ?

3dly, Whether he did not receive, *before, at, or on* his giving that Vote, or *since*, any Money, Bank Bill or Bank Bills, Note or Notes promising any Sum or Sums of Money, Bank or other Bills or Notes for Money, or any Promise of a Gratuity, Reward, Place, Pension, or any Share or Quartering on a Place held by any other Person or Persons whatsoever ?

This will determine a great many of our Votes at a future Election, *if he stands a Candidate for this Place.*

To the Worthy Liverymen of the City of London.

Gentlemen,

AS some of our Brethren seem to be forming an unusual Resolution, with respect to the Election of our next Lord Mayor, I beg Leave to offer the following

Querie s

Queries to your serious and cool Consideration.

Is not the present establish'd *Rotation* entirely calculated for the Preservation of Peace and good Order among us, and the Prevention of *annual* Broils, and mutual Contentions? If it be, Why should this *Rotation* be *now* interrupted?

Is it, that we would *resume to ourselves* (as 'tis said) a Right of electing a Lord Mayor? What Need of *resuming* a Right which has never been contested, or taken from us; a Right which is constantly acknowledged, and annually exerted in the present usual Form of Election?

Is it, that we would keep a Courtier from the Chair? Why should this be attempted *in the present Year*, when the Consequence of a Courtier's filling the Chair must be so inconsiderable? Why should we attempt this *at any Time* by receding from establish'd Rules? Are we absolutely sure that the Court shall never have Influence enough among us to be able to retaliate such a Proceeding? And will it not give them a fair Handle, a vast Advantage, that we have furnish'd them with such a Precedent? Nay, Are we sure that the present Court of Aldermen will not be induced to exert *their* Power, and fix a *constant Mark* upon a Member of their own Body, who may be look'd on as the secret Author of this present Commotion? These

These are Questions which I sincerely with every honest impartial Citizen would propose to himself. I have offer'd them to you not from any Motive of personal Friendship, or from any particular Attachment to a Minister, or a Party, but merely from a hearty Concern for the Publick Tranquillity. This I shall be ever studious to promote; and I really think it so much endanger'd on the present Occasion, that I dread the Consequence: I doubt, they that at present blow the Coals, will never be able to govern the Flame. I am

Your sincere Well-wisher and Brother,

A LIVERYMAN.

To the Author of the Daily Post.

S I R,

HAVING read something in the *Daily Advertiser* of yesterday, which the Author calls, Queries address'd to the Liverymen of the City of *London*; I beg Leave to offer a few Observations upon the Queries of this notable Author, who, it seems, by his signing himself, would *really* be thought a Liveryman.

The first Query is, 'Why the present *Establis'd Rotation* should be interrupted, which was calculated for the Preservation of Peace and good Order among us?' I should be glad to know what this Gentleman

man means by an *establiſh'd Rotation*. If this *Rotation* be *establiſh'd*, the Liverymen can have no Buſineſs at *Guildball* on *Michaelmas-Day*: But if the Liverymen of *London* know of no ſuch *Eſtabliſhment*, of ſucceeding to the Chair by *Rotation*, and think it neceſſary at this Time to exert their undoubted Right of Election, why ſhould not this *Rotation* be interrupted? As to the Preſervation of Peace and good Order in the City, (which he ſeems to have ſo much at Heart) there appears to be no ſort of Danger in that reſpect; the Conſent being almoſt univerſal to ſet aſide *Him*, who in the Opinion of his Fellow-Citizens, has render'd Himſelf unworthy of the Chief Magiſtracy, by voting for the *Convention*.

His next Query is, 'Is it that we would reſume to ourſelves a Right of Electing a Lord Mayor?' It is really ſo, and for theſe very good Reaſons; firſt, To prevent any Plea of Preſcription from continuing in the Method of *Rotation*, and thereby ſuffering it to grow into an *Eſtabliſhment*, as he modeſtly calls it; and, ſecondly, To exert our Right upon the moſt proper *Occaſion* that perhaps may ever happen.

The laſt Query is, 'Is it that we would keep a *Courtier* from the Chair? and why for the *preſent Year*, when the *Conſequence* will be ſo inconfiderable?' If by a *Courtier* our Queriſt means a Perſon dependent

on the Court by *Place* or *Pension*, it will be proper at all times to set him aside, let the *Consequence* appear to be ever so *inconsiderable*; which yet, by the way, neither our Querist, nor any other Man, is able to tell or foresee. What follows is such intolerable Stuff, that no one can read it with any Patience. According to this Author's *peaceful* Scheme, the Liverymen must acquiesce in taking a *Fool* or a *Knave*, a *Beggar* or a *Pensioner*, rather than depart from his *establis'd Rotation*. He first calls this *Rotation* an *establis'd Rule*, and in the next Paragraph says it signifies nothing, and that the Liverymen do exert their Right annually. The Suggestion at last, concerning the Resentment of the Court, and of the Aldermen, is quite scandalous, and equally ridiculous with his other Queries: Nay, it is the best Argument, at this Time, for our exerting ourselves. In short, this Author, with his *chimerical Consequences*, is not unlike the Man in the Proverb, who was said to be afraid of his Friends when there were none near him.

* I am, Sir,

Your Humble Servant.

*To the Worthy Liverymen of the City of
London.*

Gentlemen and Fellow-Citizens,

IF in the Course of this my serious Address to you, you should find any thing amiss, or in the least Degree offensive, which I am far from intending, I hope you will pardon me, and indulge me with a candid reading of it, not doubting but I shall convince you, that the Treatment I have of late receiv'd is not only unmerited, but without Example severe and cruel.

I had the Honour of an unanimous Election into the Court of Aldermen, now ten Years past; and have had the further Honour since of being Sheriff in this City, an Office of no small Expence: In these Stations I hope I have acquitted myself with some Degree of Reputation, and supported the Dignity of each to the best of my Understanding and Power.

The Time now approaches of your returning two fit and able Persons to the Court of Aldermen, out of which that Court is to chuse one to serve this City as Lord Mayor for the Year ensuing; an Office of the highest Degree of Honour to which a Citizen can be advanced; an Honour which it has always been accounted a laudable Ambition to merit, and which, I

may be pardon'd, if I express some Concern at the Endeavours so industriously made to deprive me of.

The Disorders and great Disturbance to the Peace of the City, which in former times had been occasion'd by the Over-eagerness of some, too ambitious and impatient to obtain this great Honour, were, after the City had sorely felt the Misfortune of those unhappy Contentions, quitted by a general Acquiescence of the Livery, in annually returning to the Court of Aldermen, for their Determination, the two senior Aldermen who had pass'd the Office of Sheriff, which Method has been ever since, without any material Interruption, constantly observ'd; and the Court of Aldermen have as constantly chosen the Senior of the two so return'd.

According to this Course and Regulation, it falls now to my Turn to expect, by your Favour, this Dignity; and tho' I would not be charged with so much Arrogance as to suppose any of my Juniors among the Aldermen may not be equal with me, if not superior in Capacity, to execute the Office, and to support the Dignity of it, I will presume to say, no Man has a greater Zeal for the Welfare and true Interest of the City, to maintain its Rights, and to preserve its Peace, than myself.

All

All Contests, (happy were it they were fewer!) that make Divisions among us, are ever felt with Lamentation by Individuals; the Union of Families is thereby too frequently broken, and insuperable Difficulties brought upon the Industrious, but dependent Tradesman.

Were I any ways chargeable with an ambitious Affectation of raising myself to this high Office before I had a natural Call to it, before my Seniority of Station in the Court of Aldermen requir'd my being put in Nomination, I might have been thought to deserve the Reproach of Vanity and Pride; and all that Inveteracy that has of late been thrown out to the Disadvantage of my Personal Character, both in publick and private Life: But, very far from such unwarrantable Ambition, glad should I have been that the high Honour you are to confer, had been, as to myself, in a more distant Expectation.

Is it not hard then, Gentlemen, very hard, that a Person, who, according to the usual Course of your Election, is call'd upon, and must be put in Nomination for this great Office, with or without his Consent, cannot escape the Darts of the most bitter Venom and Malice, to wound his Character, and stigmatize him as one unworthy of your Choice? But these are the Methods, and these only are the Foundation of any
Hope

Hope to disturb that Tranquillity that has so long subsisted in the City on these Occasions.

Had I, from any Foresight of this Opposition now raised against me, neglected to make those expensive Preparations which every Alderman expectant to be Lord Mayor is oblig'd to make, for the Dignity and Grandeur of the Station, it might have been imputed to me, among other Invectives, as an unbecoming Parsimony.

Had I, in the Course of my Progress thro' any Station or Honour to which I have been raised by your Favour, and for which I might be accountable to you, taken one unwarrantable Step, or for which I could not give a good Reason, I might now with Justice expect your Resentment; but it is a strong Attack upon that Liberty of Thought and Action we all contend for, that a Citizen of *London* shall not be allow'd, without Reproach, to deliver his Sentiments out of the Corporation, in Matters no ways entrusted to him by it, and this too in a Place that is the very Fountain and Foundation of such Liberty. I will not take upon me to say how far this would be accounted a Breach of Privilege there; but I am sure it must be accounted every where a violent Breach of Charity, so infamously to abuse any Man for acting agreeable to his own Sentiments and Persuasion, and to the inestimable

estimable and uncontroverted Right of every
Englishman.

I thought myself indispensably oblig'd to
say thus much in my Justification, submit-
ting myself to your Judgment upon it; and
I assure you, that whether it shall have
sufficient Weight with you to divert or amove
the present Attempts to disturb the City,
and to do me Injury, or not, I shall be at
all Times, and on all, all justifiable Occasi-
ons, very much devoted to the Interest and
Welfare of this great Corporation. I am,

Gentlemen,

St. Clement's Lane,

22. Sept. 1739.

Your most Humble Servant,

George Champion.

To the AUTHOR, of the Daily Post.

S I R, *London, Sept. 22. 1739.*

HAVING read a Letter in the *Daily*
Advertiser of this Day, sign'd *George*
Champion, let me beg Leave to give you
a few Thoughts upon the Subject and De-
sign of that Letter.

This Gentleman (after having open'd with
great Decency the Occasion of his present
Address to his Fellow-Citizens) takes No-
tice of the *Unanimity* of his *Election into*
the Court of Aldermen, and of his having
serv'd the expensive Office of Sheriff; in both
which Stations he hopes he has *acquitted*
himself with some Degree of Reputation.

Then

Then he observes, that, as the Time was now approaching for their returning *two fit and able Persons to the Court of Aldermen for their Determination*, (as he calls it) and the Method that has almost constantly (as he says) obtain'd, of chusing the *Senior of these two Aldermen*; therefore, in Consequence of this *Course and Regulation*, it was now his Turn, by their Favour, to expect that Dignity.

By this Gentleman's Leave, I would ask who has said any Thing against the *Unanimity of his Election into the Court of Aldermen*; or, who has charg'd him with any ill Behaviour as Sheriff of *London*? But, if the Liverymen of *London*, for some *Misconduct elsewhere*, think they have sufficient Reason to set him aside from being Lord Mayor, I hope he will allow them the same *Liberty of Thought and Action within the Corporation*, that himself contends for so warmly without the Corporation.

As to the *Inveteracy*, the *Darts*, and the *Venom and Malice*, which he complains have been us'd to stigmatize his Character, the *Liverymen of London* are not to be charg'd with these Things; they only consider his publick Character. They think that he has taken at least a *displeasing*, tho' (to use his own Phrase) it may not be an *unwarrantable Step*; and that he has not only acted against *their Sense*, but that of the

the *Kingdom in general*. As to the threatening Hint he gives, of making the *present Opposition to him a Breach of the Privilege of Parliament*, I dare pronounce, whenever that shall happen, there will be no *Privilege* left for us: And I hope the Gentleman will give me leave to say, it would have been *more decent* in himself, at least, to have forbore that Suggestion at this time. It looks rather like an *Effort of Revenge and Despair*, than a *serious Address* to conciliate the *Good-will* of the Citizens to him.

I would further observe, that the Liverymen of *London* do not pretend to *abridge* him, or any Man, of his *inestimable Right* of voting according to his *own Sentiments*; but he must allow them the same Right of judging for themselves; and that they may vote as *freely* in *Guildhall*, as he can pretend to do in *St. Stephen's Chapel*. And tho' the Distinction which himself and his Advocates have made, that he is not accountable as a Member of the Corporation of *London*, for what he did as a Member of Parliament for *Aylesbury*, may be swallow'd down by some People, yet the Fallacy of it is so obvious, that he himself must know, that the whole House of Commons put together are but so many Trustees for the People, and therefore accountable to them as their *Constituents*.

D

Though

Though the Term of Years, since the Method first obtain'd, of chusing by *Rotation*, is but very inconsiderable, if compar'd with that long Period before it, of *Election*; yet we see how quick this Gentleman and his Friends are to plead a *Right of Prescription*, already. He says, he has now a *natural Call* to it. I believe it is the first Time that *any Man* pleaded such a Call to the Office of Lord Mayor: But perhaps the Gentleman may only mean that it is his *Indefeasible Hereditary Right*. However, as the Liverymen still have the *Right of electing*, let them defer (as the Gentleman himself wishes) the present *high Honour* to a more *distant Expectation*; and (as the quaint and most judicious Author of the *Serious Considerations* has it) let them *exercise that Right*, to prevent all *Usurpation* upon the Office of *Lord Mayor*.

*

I am, Sir,

Your Humble Servant.

To the AUTHOR of the Daily Post.

SIR,

I Troubled you last Week with some few Observations upon the Queries address'd to the Liverymen of *London*, publish'd in the *Daily Advertiser* of the 21st Instant; I then took Notice only of what I thought the *material Part* of those Queries, for fear of

of taking up too much Room in your Paper; but, upon duly considering them, I find the *Conclusion* (which I but just hinted at) demands at least an equal Animadversion, as a most impudent Insult upon the Liverymen of *London* and their *Liberties*.

We are there told, that, in Consequence of setting aside the late Method of chusing a Lord Mayor by *Rotation*, or *Seniority*, we may bring down the *Resentment* of the *Court*, and of the *Aldermen*, upon us. What can the Author mean by this *Resentment*, but either a Suspension of our Charter by a *Quo Warranto* from the Crown, or some fresh *Negative Curb* to be put upon us by Authority of Parliament? In either Sense, this, in my Opinion, is a most *profligate* and *wicked* Suggestion against the *Honour* and *Justice* of the *Legislature*, and our present *mild* and *peaceable Administration*.

As to the other Part of his Threat,
 “ Whether the Court of Aldermen will
 “ not set a *constant Mark* upon a *certain*
 “ *Member of their own Body*, who may be
 “ look’d upon as the Author of this Com-
 “ motion, ” it is but an idle and childish
 Supposition: Those Gentlemen must undoubtedly be satisfy’d, that the *Opposition* neither *arose*, nor is at present *conducted*, to gratify the *Pique* or *Ambition* of any Man, but to set a *lasting Mark* upon him who, after hearing the *unanimous Opinion* of his Fel-

low-Citizens in *one Senate*, declar'd against them in *another*.

I propos'd to have troubled you with some short Remarks upon a Pamphlet, entitled, *Serious Considerations*, &c. but I find the *Blunders*, *Contradictions*, *little Conceits*, and *Nonsense* of it, increase so fast upon me, that I am quite tired of the Task. However, it may be some *Diversiſion* to the Reader, to see a Collection of the Rhetorical Flowers in that most *egregious* Piece, and thereby make some Judgment of the Performance of this * *Exemplary Writer*, who, to me, seems to be no other than the most ingenious Author of the abovemention'd *Queries*.

Some choice R H E T O R I C A L
F L O W E R S in a Pamphlet entitled, *Serious Considerations on the ensuing Election of a Lord Mayor*.

P A G E 2. Speaking of the Liverymens Right of Electing, he says, " For without both the Right itself, and the proper Exercise of it, our late Mayors must have been *Usurpers*."

P. 3. " The Pursuit of this laudable Custom (of chusing by *Rotation*) has filled the Chair with so many excellent *Prætors*."

* *Vid. Considerations*, p. 7.

P. 5. Speaking of the *Convention*, " I may
 " be allowed to say, from what we have
 " been told, that there were several weigh-
 " ty Arguments offer'd in the two *great*
 " *Councils* of the Nation, both for and
 " against such *Convention*, which might per-
 " plex and render it difficult for a fair and
 " unprejudiced Hearer, even one of *great*
 " *Capacity* to adjust, and such as 'twould
 " be hard to say might not *defend the*
 " *Conscience of his Vote on either Side.*

P. 7. " Such an heinous Accusation,
 " (speaking of the *B. B.*) attended with
 " so aggravating and cruel a Circumstance,
 " might for ever have unjustly expos'd that
 " *Gentleman* to the Malice of *inconsiderate*
 " *Fame*, had not his *Brother* so far forgot
 " the Misunderstandings between them.

P. 12. " It will not be unsuitable to the
 " known Candour of this *Exemplary City*,
 " to distinguish between a *Mistake in Judg-*
 " *ment*, and a *corrupt Principle.*

P. 22. " Let us then be very jealous of
 " hasty *Innovations* in opposition to Methods
 " whose *Utility Experience warrants.*

P. 23. " Can we doubt, whether when
 " a Door is opened for putting the *Magis-*
 " *trate next the Chair by*, on every slight
 " Pretence, the several *Wards* will not strive
 " to *dignify* themselves by introducing each
 " its *Parent* into it?

P. 24.

P. 24. " Were our Lord Mayor a *perpetual Dictator*, or an *uncontrouled Magistrate*, we should have some Reason to search the *Honourable Court of Aldermen* for *two* BARNARDS, before we presented for that *high Office*; but as his Power is circumscribed by the *Tear*, who is there that would not exert himself to shine with the utmost Splendor during his *Annual Revolution*?

P. 26. What can raise the Expectations of our Enemies higher, or tend more to the Combination of POWERS against us, (*Powers at present undetermined*) than our CIVIL *Dissention*?

P. 27. " Have we ever triumphed in the *Terror of the BRITISH FLAG*? *

To the AUTHOR of the Daily Advertiser.

S I R,

I AM thoroughly convinced there is not a Man of Candour or Probity, that will give himself a little time to reflect upon the present Design against the Election of Sir George Champion, but must look upon it to be not only uncommon, but unprecedented, since it tends manifestly towards depriving us of one of the most valuable Prerogatives of human Nature, that is, a Freedom of Voting or Acting conformable to the Dictates of our Judgment.

How

How slavish is the Condition of Men, when they are compell'd to sacrifice their own Sentiments to gratify the Humour of others!

This is really the Case of Sir George Champion: He look'd upon Peace to be the real Interest of the Kingdom, and that alone is urged against him as a Crime.

But the time may come when the whole Nation may have the same Sentiments: We have often known the same Measures to have been censur'd and applauded. The Peace of *Utrecht* was approv'd of by two successive Parliaments, and condemn'd by others. The Success is the Rule of judging on such Emergencies; and if we may be allow'd to make any Conjectures of the Event of the present War with *Spain*, from the many Captures which have been already made, we have but a very gloomy Prospect before us; and it would not be amazing to see Sir George Champion as much caress'd as he is now censur'd.

There are but few Instances of excluding Persons for no other Offence but voting conformable to their Opinions. We have, indeed, a fatal Example of it in the calamitous Times of 1641, when all the Members of the House of Commons who voted for Peace were excluded; but I hope we shall never see the Time when such arbitrary and illegal Proceedings shall be countenanced.

When

When Sir *George Champion* acted with Vigour against the Excise Scheme, he was the Darling of the City; but now, that he has been so unfortunate as to vote for the Peace of the Kingdom, he is become the Object of their Resentment.

We'll say nothing of the Disturbance and Animosities which this Innovation in the Order of Election must create amongst all Ranks of People; but we may venture to prophesy, that it will be like *Sisyphus's* Stone, that always roll'd back upon him.

On the whole, if Sir *George Champion* should be depriv'd of his Right to the Chair, he may proclaim it in the Streets with a loud Voice, that it was for no other Crime but voting for the Peace of *Great Britain*. I am,

S I R,

Your very Humble Servant,

C. T.

To the Tradesmen of London.

Gentlemen,

IT is now a great Number of Years that you have enjoy'd an undisturb'd Quiet with respect to the Choice of a Lord Mayor, by the regular Succession of the Aldermen to that Office according to Seniority; and the length of Time this Succession has prevail'd, notwithstanding the Contests of Parties in other Points, is an undeniable Evidence,

dence, that the Citizens in general have look'd upon it as a prudent healing Scheme, fit to be handed down to Posterity for the Preservation of the Peace of the City.

Possibly another Reason for inducing both Parties to agree in this Succession, was the little Danger they apprehended even from the most violent of any Denomination being in the Chair; and, indeed, if we consider, that no uncontrollable Power is, by the Constitution of the City, lodged in the Mayor, it will be hard to find an Instance in which he can do any real Harm to the Citizens.

It must therefore be allow'd, that this Inability in a Mayor to do Harm, and the Preservation of Peace, were the two Motives that induced both Parties, in Times of their warmest Struggles for Power, by Turns, to yield to the Succession of some to the Chair whose Characters and Principles were not perfectly agreeable. Now, if merely to gratify a few hot-headed Party-Men, this quiet Succession should be broke through, a yearly Contention will of Course ensue, and each Party must every Year be pressing you into their Service: How then will you ever regain your present State of Quiet and Peace, or escape being hurt in the continual Fray, since the Party which you did not gratify with your Vote, and but one Party

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can

can be gratified by you, will of course vent all their Resentment against you?

Consider this, ye Tradesmen of *London*, who must live by your Customers of all Parties, and are now equally employ'd by both of them during this regular Succession in the Mayoralty; and judge if it is not for your Interest and Safety, that this Succession should go on in the peaceable Course it has now been for many Years; and whether by voting for the Return of Sir *Geo. Champion* and Sir *John Salter*, the two senior Aldermen, you do not in Consequence vote for your own Quiet and Welfare?

To the Protestant Dissenters that are Liverymen of the City of London.

Gentlemen, and Fellow-Sufferers.

FOR many Years past, on account of your Consciences, you have been excluded from enjoying the Privileges to which all *Englishmen* have a natural Right.

You have often applied to the Legislature to have this grievous Burthen taken off, which has been as often denied you, and if I am not misinform'd, you intend to apply again the next Sessions of Parliament.

Gentlemen, consider that nothing will then add so much Weight to your Application, as your shewing a just Resentment at this Juncture against one, who though
he

he at present pleads for Liberty, yet then did not think you had an equal Right with himself to the Privileges of *Englishmen*, and now wants to make you his Tools: If you would regain your antient Liberties, shew that you are not a despicable Body of Men, but on the contrary, that on you depends the Choice of a Lord Mayor for the Year ensuing. I am,

Gentlemen,

Your Humble Servant,

A Liveryman, and a *Protestant Dissenter*.

To the Liverymen of the City of London.

Gentlemen,

AS I am, and have been more than twenty-five Years last past, a Citizen and Liveryman of *London*, permit me to offer my Thoughts freely on the present Design of setting aside Alderman *Champion* from being Lord Mayor for the ensuing Year. I have duly consider'd the Reasons publish'd for that Undertaking; namely, his not quarrelling in the House of Commons with the *Convention* lately made with *Spain*; tho' I am far from thinking that the Terms of that Contract were what I, and I believe every true *Briton* wish'd then, and hoped for; yet give me Leave to ask my Fellow-Subjects, and particularly my Brother Liverymen, a few serious Questions, which, if

now answer'd publickly, fully, and fairly, I will not only vote, but make all the Interest I can against that Knight's coming into the Chair at this time, or at any time hereafter.

Q. 1. Whether, in your Consciences, you believe, that there was not an absolute Necessity of making some *Convention* or other with *Spain*, in order to gain Time for our Merchants to withdraw their Effects from those Dominions, and to prepare for War, when his Majesty, both Houses of Parliament, the Ministry, and every Body, (that knew any thing of publick Affairs) well knew that we never made a Peace with that Crown since the last War, but only agreed to a Cessation of Arms, and Trade?

Q. 2. If *Great Britain* and *Spain* before, and at the time of making this last *Convention*, were only under a Truce and Agreement to trade, but not in a State of Peace (or of such a Peace as was thought binding on *Spain*) if the King and his Ministry had reviv'd the War, without taking that Care of our Merchants, and of their Ships, Trade and Effects, as they did by gaining Time, and discovering our own Resolution and Courage, do you believe that *Spain* would have given us so much Time to secure our Ships and Effects, as was gain'd for us by the *Convention*?

Q. 3. Do

Q. 3. Do you believe that his Majesty and his Ministry, in this, or in any other Transaction or Forbearance, have ever aim'd at making *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and all our Isles and Plantations, Provinces of *Spain* and *France*, who seem'd (united with *Germany*, *Sweden*, the Grand Signior, the Pope, and Pretender) as fast as they can to share the World between them?

Q. 4. Do you believe that this *Convention* was complied with by his Majesty, and his Ministry, before they tried the utmost that *Spain* could be brought to?

Q. 5. Do you believe that the wisest Merchants, Traders, and Freeholders, would not have thought the King and his Ministry very careless of our Religion, Lands, and Trade, upon which (under God) our Safety and Welfare depends, if they had then insisted on such high Terms as they well knew *Spain* would not consent to till we had asserted our Sovereignty of the Seas?

Q. 6. Can you believe that *Spain* would then give up that surprising Power (which they had most unjustly usurp'd) of searching and seizing our Ships and Merchandize at Sea, while we seem'd (by our Patience and Divisions) to be afraid of them, when you now see they are resolv'd to hold it as long as they can, notwithstanding they are convinced that our King (and his Ministry) dares

dares do Justice to his Crown and Kingdoms, when fair and friendly Methods prov'd ineffectual?

Q. 7. If Sir *George Champion* did vote, as the Majority of the Lords and Commons wisely did, in the Affair of the *Convention*; is that a sufficient Reason to deny him the Honour of being Mayor of this City, now it is (not by Nature of Birth, as some would construe his Words, but by a subsisting and unrepeal'd Agreement, regular Rotation, and long and undisturb'd Practice) fairly come to his Turn?

Q. 8. Was not this Agreement for a regular Rotation enter'd into, and for many Years acquiesced in, (even in the like Cases of our own Members) as the best and only Means to prevent Bribery, Corruption, Partiality, dangerous Tumults, and Complaints of Injustice done to Seniority?

Q. 9. Does not long Custom, mutual and undisturb'd Agreement, give every Man a Right to any Honour or Advantage that he is capable of holding, when it thus comes to his Turn, if such Claimant has done no publick Act in his present Station to forfeit his Right of Succession?

Q. 10. May it not happen to be the Misfortune of the best Alderman of this City to be kept out of his Right for ever, by spiriting up a Mob to awe us, and to insist upon this Precedent in all our future Elections?

Q. 11. Or,

Q. II. Or, if this peaceable, safe, and equitable Method, be now broke through, how shall it ever be reviv'd again, but by a superior Power, that may clog us with that which may not be so easy to us, and our Posterity, as our own Agreement has long been ?

As to his private Life ; I do not suppose Sir *Geo. Champion* to be without Faults ; but I hope none of you will now vote against his Right of Rotation, unless you can find one to elect in his room that is so. For my part, I should think it very hard if I should be refus'd to vote in the City, because I am not free from Faults out of the City ; and in this I believe you are all of my Mind : My honest Design is, to prevail with my Brother Liverymen only to do as they would be done by. A City divided against itself is not like to flourish, or to be long easy. I

am, Gentlemen,

Your faithful Brother, Friend, and Servant,
A Liveryman.

To the AUTHOR of the Daily-Post.

S I R,

Sept. 28. 1739.

I Have read several Letters lately publish'd in the *Daily Advertiser*, that relate to the present Election of a Lord Mayor. If a Man would sit down to answer such Writers, it might be properly term'd *Sisyphus's* Labour.

Labour. The *Stone* would roll back upon him continually. He would have the same *Impertinence* to answer over again every Day. There would be *Defences* made, where there had been no *Accusations*; and *private* and *publick* Character brought up, that had never been *impeach'd*. This has been the Practice of all the Advocates for Sir G. C. in their *Letters* and *Queries*. They are always upon that Part of his Character, that is *not* objected to, but never defend that which *is*. Nor has he himself, or any of his *Champions* once offer'd to clear him of the Imputation of——

What then would these Gentlemen have? They have long since been told what were the Reasons and Motives of the Liverymen for setting him aside. They have been told, it was for acting against the *Sense* of his Fellow-Citizens, where they thought *their own* and the *Rights of the Nation* so *highly* concern'd. All that they can say or suggest has been so fully and judiciously answered, in a Letter address'd to Sir G. C. himself, that they have not yet attempted the least Answer to it. Will they pretend, it would not be a greater *Hardship* for the Liverymen to give up their *Right of Election*, and confer their highest Trust upon a Person they *cannot confide in*, than for Sir G. C. to lose his Turn of the Chair? And yet they are so insolent, to tell the Electors,

tors, that they are a Parcel of *hot-headed Party-Men*; to threaten them with the *Power of the Crown* and the *Court of Aldermen*; to make their *Opposition* a *Breach of Privilege of Parliament*; and to call their Ancient and Undoubted Privilege of *Election*, an *Innovation*, and a Design only to *disturb the Peace of the City*.

I shall indeed readily agree with one of their Authors, that Sir G. C. has taken great Pains to * *enlighten the City* (as he calls it) and I hope *this Light* will shine forth to the whole Nation in the *fullest Lustre*. I hope the Liverymen of *London* will nobly exert themselves upon this Occasion, not only to support their own *Right of Electing*, but to shew a Pattern to the whole Kingdom, of their Detestation of all *Corrupt and Unwarrantable Influences*. Then will these *Pensioners* and *Placemen* see the † *Stone roll down* upon themselves without being able to *sustain the Weight* of it. The very Name of *Corruption* will be buried under it! And since these Authors are so fond of fabulous Allusions, they must give me Leave to apply one in my Turn; I will then venture to presage, that this *Prometheus*, whom they now support, will have that *Vulture* (the *Convention*) continually *pecking at his Liver*, as long as he lives. * I am, Sir, &c.

* *Advertiser, Sept. 26.*

† *Advertiser, Sept. 27.*

P. S. What will the Advocates for *Rotation* say now, when they see the open *Sollicitations* of *Placemen* and *Courtiers* in behalf of their Candidate? Are we to conclude from that *Influence*, that he has been under *none* himself? Is the Interest of *D—rs*, *Com—rs*, and a whole Crew of *M—l Banditti*, a Proof of having clean Hands? Or, does it look like having Voted (as he expresses it) according to *Sentiment* and *Persuasion*?

To the Liverymen of London.

Gentlemen,

AL L that I find alledg'd by the Friends of Sir *George Champion* in his Favour, is *Seniority*; and that they hope the Liverymen will not break in upon this long establish'd Custom of *Rotation*: Pray let me ask, How long is it since this establish'd Custom was broke through?

Was not Sir *Harcourt Masters* set aside from being a Mayor by Parliament, not many Years since? And

Was not Alderman *Levett* set aside since, by the Liverymen?

Will any one pretend to say you have not a Right to set any Man aside whom you dislike? and was there ever more Reasons
to

to be given for setting any Man aside, either *publick* or *private*, than in the *present Case*? Besides, Gentlemen, by chusing one *who voted for the Convention*, you throw the greatest Affront on the *present Lord Mayor*, Alderman *Parsons*, Sir *John Barnard*, and Alderman *Willimott*, your City Members, *who All voted against it*; and were supported in the same by Sir *Francis Child*, *George Heathcote*, Esq; and *Henry Marshall*, Esq; all Worthy Aldermen of this City.

ANSWERS to the latter Queries.

1. **I**F there was a Necessity for a *Convention*, it need not have been a *bad one*.

2. The King in this has done no more than his Duty.

3. No : Their Interest forbids it; therefore 'tis a damn'd silly *Quere*.

5. If they do not take all imaginable Care of our Religion, &c. they are unworthy of the Trust repos'd in them.

6. Why was the Usurpation suffer'd? and why was not Justice done to the Crown and Kingdom before?

7. You say, Sir *George Champion* voted *wisely*; and we suppose you, by the Word *wisely*, allude to *Interest*; which we make

no doubt he has already found, and for that Reason think him unworthy of the Chair.

8. This *Agreement* or *Rotation* talk'd of, can only have been made among the Aldermen; and pray who invested them with such a Power?

9. We know of no Right but the Choice of his Fellow-Citizens; and if they think him *unworthy*, that's enough.

10. This is a bold Expression in a Candidate for an Office, to charge the Citizens, who only assume their Right of Election, with *spiriting up a Mob*.

11. 'Tis better not to be continu'd, since, as is apparent in this very Case, the Worthy and Ignoble are thereby put upon a Level.

12. The Gentlemen against the *Rotation* have avoided entering into his private Life, why should his Friends urge it?

To the Worthy Liverymen of the City of London.

Gentlemen,

THE favourable Reception you gave to my Address to you the 22^d Instant, and the great Concourse of eminent Citizens that met at the *Crown Tavern* the *Tuesday* following in my Support, gave me great and encouraging Hopes that my Approach to the Chair of the chief Magistracy, as senior Alderman below it, would not have been obstructed in the Manner I have

have found; but perceiving that, contrary to the Hopes I had entertain'd, of a more calm Disposition, I could not withstand the present Opposition form'd against me, without occasioning great Hardships and Sufferings to Individuals, as well as a mischievous Convulsion to the whole Community, I determin'd, for the Quiet and Peace of the City, to persevere no longer, and to decline the Poll demanded in my Favour.

I beg, therefore, those Gentlemen who have so readily and heartily appear'd in my Behalf, to accept my humble Thanks, and sincere Acknowledgments of the Obligation they have conferr'd on me; and I hope this Resignation, which I have shewn in Tenderness to the general Happiness and Welfare of my Fellow-Citizens, will be acceptable to all. I am,

Gentlemen,

St. Clement's Lane,
Saturday Evening,
29 Sept. 1739.

Your Most Humble Servant,
George Champion:

On *Monday October, 1.* Mr. *Glover*, an eminent *Hamburg* Merchant, made a Motion to the Sheriffs about a Petition from the Citizens to Parliament, against the great Number of Placemen, &c. in the House of Commons, which was seconded by *William Benn*, Esq, High-Sheriff for the County of *Hertford*. Mr. Sheriff *Heathcote* then made a Speech to the Livery-

Liverymen, for their Approbation of a Petition to Parliament, to take off the Court of Aldermens *Negative* in Common-Council, in order to restore that Power which they formerly had; and then concluded with the following Prayer:

“ May the Great God of Heaven, who
 “ has often so wonderfully and miracu-
 “ lously preserved this Nation, still conti-
 “ nue his Blessing and Preservation of us;
 “ and that under the Illustrious House of
 “ *Hanover*, the Laws, Liberties, and
 “ Trade of all His Majesty's *British* Domi-
 “ nions, may continue and be preserv'd,
 “ till Time shall be no more!

The next Day [being *Tuesday*] the Common-Hall met again, pursuant to their Adjournment; and after Sir *John Salter* had been declar'd duly elected Lord Mayor for the Year ensuing, the following Question was moved to be put to the Common-Hall:

Gentlemen,

“ Do you consent earnestly to entreat
 “ your Lord Mayor, to call a Common-
 “ Council with all convenient Speed, in
 “ order to consider of a most Dutiful and
 “ Loyal Address to His Majesty, on the
 “ present State of the Kingdom?”

Which

Which Question the Lord Mayor not thinking fit to be put there, promised to call a Common-Council for that Purpose; and then the following Question was likewise moved by Mr. Sheriff *Heathcote*, and seconded by the general Voice of the Hall:

“ Whereas by a Clause in an Act of the
 “ Eleventh Year of King *George* the First,
 “ for Regulating Elections within the City
 “ of *London*, &c. it is enacted, *that no*
 “ *Act, Order, or Ordinance, whatsoever,*
 “ *shall be made, or passed in the Common-*
 “ *Council of the said City, without the*
 “ *Assent of the Mayor and Aldermen pre-*
 “ *sent at such Common-Council, or the ma-*
 “ *ior Part of them:* Do you, Good Men
 “ of the Livery, now require and instruct
 “ the Rt. Hon. *Micajah Perry*, Esq; Lord
 “ Mayor; *Humphrey Parsons*, Esq; and
 “ Alderman; Sir *John Barnard*, Kt. and
 “ Alderman; and *Robert Willimott*, Esq;
 “ and Alderman, your Four Worthy Re-
 “ presentatives, to use their utmost Endea-
 “ vours for Repealing the said Clause?”

Whereupon a Debate arose between the Lord Mayor and the Sheriff, about putting the Question in Form; but his Lordship said he consider'd it as the General Sense of the Common-Hall, that thereby
 he

he thought himself sufficiently instructed, and doubted not but the other City Members would be of the same Opinion.

The INSTRUCTIONS to the four City Members, deliver'd by Mr. Glover to the Sheriffs, were introduc'd by that Gentleman in a Speech to the following Effect.

Mr. Alderman Heathcote, and Sir John Lequesne.

TH E Worthy Liverymen of this City, here assembled before you, have now set aside, in all Probability, irrevocably and perpetually, set aside one Candidate from the Honourable and Powerful Office of Lord Mayor of this great Metropolis. The Reasons of this Proceeding, must, to every impartial Citizen, appear obvious and incontestable, being founded on that just Indignation which it becomes every true *Englishman* at this Time to entertain at the many Disgraces, Barbarities and Insults, which have been suffer'd to fall upon his Country from a Nation esteem'd in all preceding Times as the Object of our Contempt, and whose Insolence we have as often reduced and humbled, as we have exerted our Power. But still, this Proceeding, begun and pursu'd with so much Spirit, conducted with so much Discretion and Decency, where

where the Peace and good Order of this Great City have been consulted with as much Caution, as the principal Purpose itself has been supported with Resolution and Vigour; I say, this very Proceeding may still be liable to the Censure of Abruptness and Inconsistency, if the same Motives which have influenc'd our Conduct in the Election of our Mayor, do not now create the same Unanimity to pay our most grateful Acknowledgments to our Four Worthy Representatives in Parliament, for their steady and faithful Adherence to all our Rights, for their vigorous Support of our Trade in particular, and of the Honour of this Kingdom in general, by their Opposition in the House of Commons to the late *Convention with Spain*. Our *Instructions* should likewise accompany our *Thanks*, that the Tenour of our Conduct may appear to be consistent and uniform throughout. For this Purpose I have receiv'd this Paper from several Gentlemen of the highest Consideration and Character in this City, who know that it was at their particular and most earnest Entreaty, that I have taken upon me to make the following Motion, tho' from the Propriety of the thing itself, I hope I should otherwise stand excused: I therefore humbly move that this Paper may be read; and if, as I doubt not, it obtains the Approbation of this Assembly, that you

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Gentle-

Gentlemen, our Worthy Sheriffs, may be desir'd to present Copies of it to the Right Honourable *Micajah Perry*, Esq; Lord Mayor, to *Humphry Parsons*, Esq; Alderman, to *Sir John Barnard*, Knt. and Alderman, and to *Robert Willimot*, Esq; Alderman, our Four Representatives in Parliament.

To the Rt. Hon. Micajah Perry, Esq; Lord Mayor,
Humphry Parsons, Esq; Ald.
Sir John Barnard, Knt. Ald.
Robert Willimot, Esq; Ald.
 Representatives of the City of London in
this present Parliament.

WE the Liverymen of the City of London, in Common-Hall assembled, in order to exert our undoubted Right of Electing two proper Persons to be return'd to the Court of Aldermen for the Mayoralty of this great City for the Year ensuing, should be wanting both to you and ourselves, if, whilst we are shewing a just Resentment by setting aside one Person, whose Conduct we disapprove, and whom we judge unworthy of that High and Honourable Office, we did not take the same Opportunity of returning you our sincere and hearty Thanks for your general Conduct in Parliament; and in a more particular

cular Manner for your late Endeavours to preserve us from the Ruinous Consequences we then too justly apprehended from the *Convention with Spain*.

And, tho' neither your Endeavours at that time, nor the Interposition of this City, had the desired Effect, yet every Man in this Nation must be now fully convinced of the Dishonour, as well as Danger, of that fatal Treaty.

We are now made deeply sensible of the unhappy State of this Kingdom, from the imminent Mischiefs which seem to threaten us from Abroad; and it is with great Grief we observe our excellent Constitution declining in some Instances at Home: But when the true Spirit and Vigour of a *British* Parliament shall exert itself, we promise ourselves, that, with the Divine Assistance, we shall be equally preserv'd from the Danger of both.

In a free and uncorrupted Assembly of our Representatives, consists not only the Dignity, but even the Character and very Essence of a Parliament. It is of the highest Importance, that those, whom we intrust with an unrestrain'd Power of making all Laws, affecting our Trade, Properties, Liberties and Lives, should be uninfluenced by any lucrative Considerations; and yet, notwithstanding several good Laws have been made to secure the Independency of

the House of Commons, how insecure must that great Blessing be, from the Number of Placemen who have already got Footing there, and who may be augmented hereafter by many more.

It is therefore, as we apprehend, absolutely necessary, that some new and more effectual Provision should be made to reduce and limit their Number; and we require and insist, that you would use your utmost Endeavours to promote a Bill for that salutary Purpose, in Conjunction with such Patriots as may be willing to join with you, and assist you in this great and necessary Work.

As the Nation has on many Occasions found the happy Effects of applying to their respective Representatives, and giving them proper Instructions in Cases of great Consequence, as in Particular with Regard to the late pernicious Excise Scheme, which was calculated for the Destruction of the Liberties of this Nation, which vile Attempt was by these Means defeated; so we are unwilling to entertain the least Doubt of meeting with the same Success upon this Occasion: And as this is a Point on which the very Being of Parliaments, and the Prosperity of this Kingdom so absolutely depends, we once more earnestly require you to make it a previous Step to the passing of any Money-Bill whatsoever.

This

This Paper being read, and unanimously approv'd of by the Common-Hall, was presented by the Sheriffs to the Four City Members.

The CITY CHAMPION.

A POEM upon My Lord Mayor's
GREAT HORSE.

NOT long ago, a warm Dispute
There happen'd at a City Mote:
Who, mounted on a long-tail'd Horse,
Shou'd, thro' this City, ride a Course?
Not such, as knavish Jockies ride,
When nimble Racer they bestride;
But mounted, on a Prancer high,
In Magisterial Dignity,
Shou'd rule the City, one whole Year,
With Honour, Great as any Peer.

When lo! a CHAMPION bold stept forth,
Of much Renown, but — Worth.
Secure, these Honours to attain,
If once he cou'd the Saddle gain.

My Fellow-Citizens, quoth he,
I think, I have a double Plea,

To

To mount this Horse; and first, d'ye see,
 I claim it, by Seniority:
 A Plea, which has been held, of late,
 A Title sure to this high Seat.
 But lest this Title chance to fail,
 I hope, by Merit to prevail.
 You'll all allow, in Times of Peace,
 That Trade, must flourish, and increase.
 Who wou'd not smiling Peace prefer
 To the Calamities of War?
 For wisest Authors have confest,
 That War's but hazardous, at best:
 That Strength cannot secure Success,
 Nor Swiftnefs, always, win the Race.

The bloody minded *Spaniards*, (Lord!
 I tremble, when I speak the Word)
 The Nation had possess'd with Fears,
 They'd come, and *cut off all our Ears*.
 Had vow'd to bring both Foot and Horse,
 And land the *Chevalier* by Force;
 Plunder our Goods, and burn our Houses,
 Ravish our Daughters, and our Spouses.

Of these dire Evils, for Prevention,
 Not with a View of any Pension,
 I voted for the late *Convention*.
 Convinc'd, by Reason of great Weight,
 'Twas for the Int'rest of the State.
 And, to support my Sentiment,
 I now, appeal to the Event:
 Nay, prove it will, by Argument.

}
 }
 For

For Fleets and Armies, what vast Cost
 What Blood, and Treasure will be lost?
 And when, you've beat them all to Raggs,
 And empty'd all your Money-baggs,
 You'll come to the same Purpose, still,
 And *Spain* that Treaty must fulfil.

But yet methinks some Brethren here
 Behold me with malicious Sneer;
 By some base Means, as if they thought,
 I had been influenc'd to that Vote.
 I here declare it, from my Heart,
 I meant to take my Country's Part.

Unworthy Thought! Who can suppose
 Such Practice in the *Senate-House*?
 Compos'd of Men of *Conscience nice*,
 Sent there, by *free, deliberate, Choice*!
 Surely, within that sacred Pale
Corruption never can prevail!
 To think it is a high Affront
 On the whole Body, lie upon't!
 What, if a *Breach* they shou'd resent,
 Of *Privilege of Parliament*?
 'Twou'd grieve me fore, indeed, to see
 This City, all in Custody;
 And only, for opposing Me.

Some farther Merit yet I claim,
 Known here so well, I need not name
 Such, as the Lighting, of your Doors,
 The punishing of naughty Whores.

And

And once, I caught, a *Taylor snipping*,
For which he got a *hearty Whipping*.

One Moment more, your Patience,
I have incurr'd a *large Expence*.
Of Cloaths, some half a Dozen Suits,
New-gilded Spurs, and new Jack-Boots ;
With other Ornaments, to grace,
And do due Honour to the Place.

Thus spoke ! The Stirrup and the Main
He seiz'd, but strove to mount, in vain.
To the Spectators great Amaze,
His heavy Bum he could not raise.
Oft he essay'd, as oft was foild ;
At length, with fruitless Labour toil'd,
Stock-still he stood, as tho' from Hell
He had been fixt by Magick Spell.
Resolv'd, to make one Essay more,
With all his Might, his Breeches tore ;
Out dropt a Purse, of ample Size,
His utmost Efforts to o'erpoise,
Of *Spanish* Gold, about it flew,
Expos'd to all the City's View.
Confus'd, with Shame, and red with Ire,
He thought it proper to retire,
And, as he pass'd th' incens'd Crowd,
Some hiss'd, some halloo'd, but none bow'd.

Th' Assembly then, with gen'ral Voice
Proceeded to a worthier Choice :

And

And tho' they did not like it much,
 Their *Moderation* yet was such,
 That wisely, till, the next Occasion,
 They fill'd the Saddle by *Rotation*.

Thus ended all this fierce Contention,
 The People damn'd the Word, *Convention*.
 The Cryer, said *Amen*, with usual Prayer,
 God blefs, the *King*, the *City*, and *Lord*
Mayor.

F I N I S.



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